

8,000 attend Safety Expo

Safety Expo welcomes 8,000 attendees; ES&H programs renew national accreditations; Employees commit to building safe tomorrows for everyone; Engineering safety into the workplace brotects workers

Safety

SAFETY EXPO EXTENDS REACH

An estimated 8,000 Y-12 and NNSA employees, as well as people from the community, enjoyed safety messages unveiled at the 2004 Safety Expo. At the event, held in downtown Oak Ridge annually since 2001, Safety Expo attendees viewed more than 180 displays and demonstrations from 47 Y-12 groups and vendors from 8 states.

Five Y-12 employees spent the day judging each internal display. Winners were declared in five categories: Most Interactive (Planning & Integration), Best Visual Presentation (Materials Management), Most Useful Information (Environmental Compliance), Most Safety/ Health Related (IAM Local 480) and Best of Show (Planning & Integration).

Events included the personal protective equipment "fashion show." A surprise sensation was D-Rud and the Bratty Behavior Singers, a barbershop quartet comprised of President and General Manager Dennis Ruddy and three of his managers. They crooned safety messages to the delight of spectators.

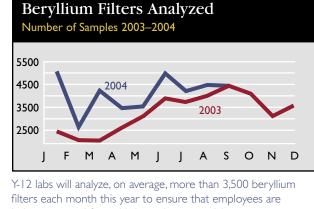
Children's activities included a bungee run, bridge-building contests, identification kits (fingerprints and a digital photograph), wall climbing and cheering their favorites in the forklift



Julia Peterson, daughter of Emergency Management's Shana Peterson, is fingerprinted for her ID kit by a community volunteer.

Y-12 ES&H PROGRAMS' **ACCREDITATION RENEWED**

Several Y-12 Environment, Safety and Health programs received high honors and accreditations from national health services organizations. Accreditations help ensure that Y-12 meets its obligation to protect workers and the



being protected from this hazardous material.

environment by providing accurate, verifiable sampling and test results.

- Y-12's Occupational Health Services Program received a second 3-year accreditation from the Accreditation Association for Ambulatory Health Care.
- The dosimetry programs are accredited by the DOE Laboratory Accreditation Program every 2 years.
- The Analytical Chemistry Organization labs are accredited by the American Industrial Hygiene Association, which has accredited 217 labs nationally. Y-12's is one of only 20 accredited in all available fields of testing.
- Y-12's round-robin proficiency analytical testing program has produced 1,800 testing samples from

DOE and industry sources since January 2003.

- Y-12 has won four National Safety Council awards for safety improvements and performance.
- ACO holds credentials permitting it to perform work regulated by various external agencies.

BEHAVIOR-BASED SAFETY IS BEST!

The Y-12 behavior-based safety process is named BEST, an acronym that reflects the message—Building Everyone Safe Tomorrows.

In this employee-driven process, each employee is represented by 1 of 16 steering committees. The basis of the BEST process is employees observing other employees at work. An observer identifies

Rapid transfer ports provide a safe, secure method for moving sensitive materials during production. Here Larry Woodard (left) and Sam Robinson of Applied Technologies check the operation of an RTP.

barriers to working safely and provides feedback because increasing safe behaviors and reducing at-risk behaviors lead to fewer injuries.

Y-12 management is committed to removing barriers to safety. For example, during a BEST observation in the Steam Plant, ten ladders with rusty safety gates were discovered. Identified as an unnecessary climbing risk. these difficult-to-open ladders and gates were replaced within a month.

What makes BEST such a powerful process is that the people who know the most about the work, the workers themselves, lead it. They are creating a safe work environ-

Safety Scorecard

Jan-Sept 2004

Jan-Sept 2003

lan-Sept 2004

Jan-Sept 2003

Lost workday cases

to DOE safety reporting guidelines

Calendar Year 2003 through 2004

Recordable injuries/illness cases

20

40

10

Y-12 employees are working more safely now than ever before according

60

ment by helping to increase safe behaviors and practices.

ENGINEERING SAFETY INTO THE WORKPLACE

Ensuring safe operating conditions at Y-12 follows a hierarchy of actions to protect workers from hazardous materials. John Gertsen, manager

82

100

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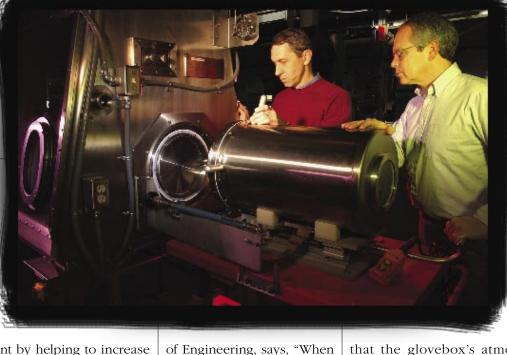
protecting workers from hazardous materials or conditions, we rely first on engineered controls, then on administrative controls and finally on personal protective equipment," which complies with DOE Order 440.1A, Worker Protection Management for DOE Federal and Contractor Employees.

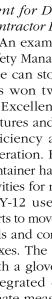
An example of Integrated Safety Management, the rackable can storage box system has won two DOE Awards of Excellence for its safety features and design focus on efficiency and economy of operation. Each box-shaped container has multiple storage cavities for materials.

Y-12 uses rapid transfer ports to move hazardous materials and connect with gloveboxes. The latest such use is

with a gloveboxintegrated coordinate measuring machine. Using the RTP ensures

that the glovebox's atmospheric parameters are maintained during transfers, avoiding exposure to ambient air and personnel.





ACES OF Y-12 Pat Porter Safety Engineer

The next generation must learn the unique process knowledge that makes Y-12's staff distinctive and understand that Y-12's mission has not changed. The threats to national security are as real today as 37 years ago, when I was a member of the next generation.

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